

# **DNREC, DHSS now accepting applications for Wastewater and Drinking Water Asset Management Incentive Programs**

*Proposals from county and municipal governments due by April 1*

**DOVER** – The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Environmental Finance and the Department of Health & Social Services Division of Public Health State Revolving Fund programs are now accepting applications from county and municipal governments for the Wastewater and Drinking Water Asset Management Incentive Programs. Applications must be received by both agencies' close of business (4:30 p.m.) Monday, April 1.

An asset management incentive program is a tool that helps local governments prioritize and classify assets associated with managing and operating a wastewater or drinking water utility. The program results in more efficient management of public utilities, lower replacement costs, and an overall healthier community.

Asset Management Incentive Program participants can receive funding to develop and implement asset management plans for their facilities. To receive financial incentives, municipal governments must sign a five-year agreement with DNREC and DHSS, which requires the development and implementation of system-wide asset management plans for wastewater and/or drinking water utilities. The plan must be consistent with EPA's Framework for Asset Management, which includes: 1) Current state of assets, 2) Level of service, 3) Critical assets, 4) Minimum lifecycle cost, and 5) Long-term funding plan.

## Financial incentives for the program include:

- Up to a \$100,000 grant (no match required) per municipality/county in Delaware to develop and implement an Asset Management Program (up to \$200,000 for combined wastewater and drinking water programs)
- Loan interest rebate of up to one-half of the interest paid on a new wastewater and/or drinking water state revolving fund loan. Loans will be rebated back for up to five years after completion of projects (from loan amortization start dates).

The program will be funded from the respective non-federal administrative accounts for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs. Submittals will be recommended for funding by the Delaware Water Infrastructure Advisory Council through a first-come, first-served basis, based on receipt of an approved application meeting all of the requirements.

Asset Management Plan guidelines and the application can be found online at the [Environmental Finance website](#). Application must be submitted by email to [Greg.Pope@delaware.gov](mailto:Greg.Pope@delaware.gov) (Proposals submitted by email must be less than 10 MB).

For more information, contact Greg Pope, DNREC Environmental Finance, at 302-739-9941, or Heather Warren, Office of Drinking Water, at 302-744-4817.

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